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DATE: September 12, 2002

**FROM:** Director

Survey and Certification Group

Center for Medicaid and State Operations

**SUBJECT:** Comparative Surveys for Fiscal Year 2003

**TO:** Regional Administrators

Associate Regional Administrators

The purpose of this memorandum is to communicate the expected number of Comparative surveys that will be conducted during the 2003 fiscal year. As you may remember, the number of Comparatives increased in fiscal year 2001 to at least two per state. The number of Comparative Surveys required for fiscal year 2003 is not changing from fiscal year 2001. We will be issuing the procedure for selecting, conducting and enforcing the results of Comparatives later next month. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Dawn Hawkins Johnson of my staff at (410) 786-1117 or <a href="mailto:dhawkinsjohnson@cms.hhs.gov">dhawkinsjohnson@cms.hhs.gov</a>

/s/ Steven A. Pelovitz

cc: State Agency Directors